

### WON A BIG SUIT.

Lawyer John Durham the Idol of all Philadelphia—Saves a Helpless but Innocent Woman—Social Life in Germantown and Philadelphia—The Phyllis Wheatley Literary Society.

Philadelphia, Pa., Special—Scarcely in the history of the city of Philadelphia have the colored people rejoiced more in the different vocations of life, that some of us are walking, than within the past few days. The professions should be a part of the colored people as of any other race; if it had not been so, the Wise Providence would not have so guided the Hon. John Durham, so take in hand such a case that ended the past year. The story is of a Mrs. Hoggenbotham, who on the afternoon of June 4th met her death in a very peculiar way, being found in the hallway of her home in West Philadelphia, with her skull and face battered by a bottle, which was on the floor broken into small bits. She died four days later at the hospital.



BISHOP LEVI J. COPPIN.

At the time the crime was committed no one was around the house but Mary Wright, a colored domestic and John, the son of Mrs. Hoggenbotham. In the work of the detectives, the finger of suspicion pointed to the colored woman and her arrest soon followed. She had no counsel to appear for her and through the workings of a few good Baptist sisters, headed by Mrs. Layton, president of womens auxiliary to the National Baptist Convention, the Hon. John S. Durham, was secured without compensation as the counsel for the defendant. All odds were against her for there was not one witness for her side and although the way seemed dark at sometimes during the progress of the trial; after earnest pleading by her able lawyer, and though it took the jury five long days to come to the decision, it was with joy to its hearers that the verdict rang out in the court room "not guilty."

When the verdict was announced there was some hand clapping on the part of enthusiastic friends of the accused woman. She is a native of Washington, D. C. Great credit is due to Lawyer Durham and God grant that we will have many more to step forth as he has done and fight for the cause of humanity even though he receives no compensation. It is wise therefore to prepare our young men and women along all lines, for we know not what time we will call upon them to help themselves by helping their fellow men.

The Phyllis Wheatley Literary Society of Cherry Street Baptist church held its regular meeting on Tuesday evening. Subject for debate was "Resolve that the hope of reward is a greater incentive to duty than the fear of punishment." The affirmative was ably

represented by Messrs. J. E. Buckner, of Virginia Seminary; Howard Smith and H. V. Snyder; Messrs. Dennis, Jenkins and Dabney appeared for the negative. The attendance was fairly large and the debate was both interesting and instructive.

### NOTES.

Miss May Howard has gone to Petersburg, Va. for a short stay.

Bishop L. J. Coppin is expected to arrive from Africa about the first of the year.



PROF. W. E. B. DuBOIS.

Dr N. G. Mosell is the only colored man in Philadelphia who owns an automobile.

Miss Maggie Ford of Long Branch, N. J. is with us again after an absence of a few months.

Miss Bertha Cornish of Reading, Pa. is in the city and will spend the winter with relatives here.

Miss Beatrice Ridgeley of Washington, was in the city last week attending the foot ball game.

Rev. Dr. Ferris of Boston was in our city the past week and lectured at the Cherry Street church on Thursday evening.

Miss Anna Gertrude Williams was married at her home in Fernwood to Mr. Joseph Price of this city on the 26th ult.

Mr. Paul Laurence Dunbar, the poet and reader appeared before the Philadelphia public on the 19th inst. at St. James Hall.

Dr. DuBois will lecture on the "History of the American Slavery and African Slave Trade" in a course beginning January 2nd.

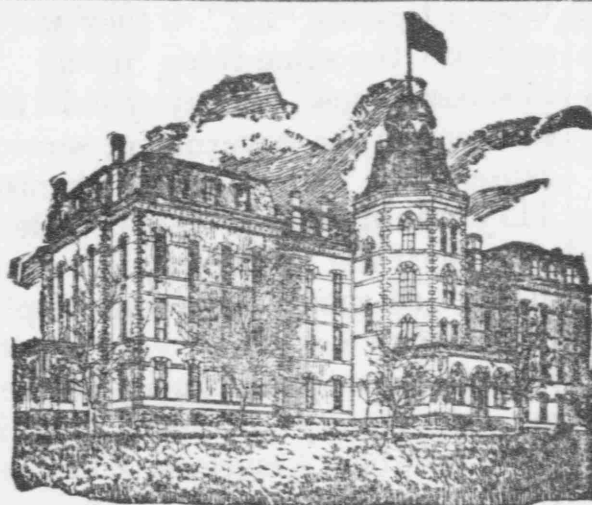
Mr. Isaac Nutter, a recent graduate of Howard University Law School is in the city attending lectures at the University of Pennsylvania.

Rev. Wm. A. Creditt, paid a visit to Washington on last Wednesday, attending a Baptist conference between the white and colored Baptist of this country.

Rev. Emmett Gully, a 1800 graduate of Lincoln University is the clerk of the Presbyterian Conference in Georgia. He is also pastor of the Presbyterian Circuit in Albany, Georgia.

The Fortnightly Club was nicely entertained on last Wednesday night by Mr. and Mrs. Park Harper. The guest enjoyed the evening in hearing vocal and instrumental music dancing and a visit to their curio home. At midnight the merry crowd left feeling they had enjoyed a most pleasant evening.

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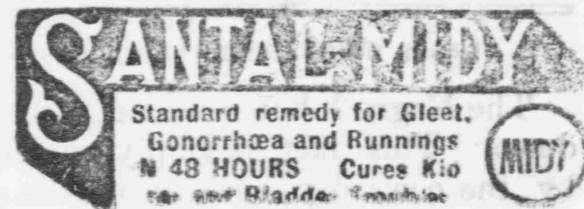
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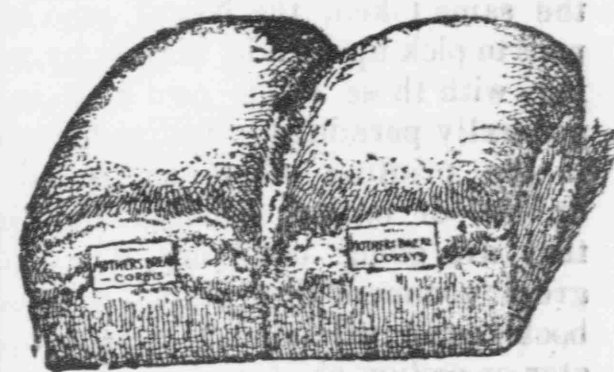
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